

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO ENSIGN JAMES
RANDOLPH MOTLEY MCMURTRY

• Mr. SANTORUM. Mr. President, today I would like to reflect on the recent passing of Ensign James Randolph Motley McMurtry, a member of the U.S. Navy and a beloved son and friend. Ensign McMurtry tragically died while on vacation in February 2005. The McMurtry family has suffered a tremendous loss, and I offer them my condolences and deepest sympathy during this difficult time.

Ensign McMurtry grew up in Harrisburg, PA, attending the Harrisburg Academy in Wormleysburg. He was an exemplary student and excelled in athletics. As he continued his education at the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, MD, he served as platoon commander, drill sergeant, and drill officer.

After graduating from the Naval Academy in 2003, Ensign McMurtry was assigned to the Joint Chiefs of Staff of the National Military Command Center at the Pentagon. For all those who worked with Ensign McMurtry at the Pentagon, they knew him as quiet, purposeful, and respectful.

Ensign McMurtry had dedicated his life to protecting the freedom and liberties we hold dear as Americans. I value Ensign McMurtry's courage and patriotism. I am also inspired by this young man's conviction and desire to spend his life serving our Nation. I am deeply saddened that his life ended so tragically.

Ensign McMurtry leaves behind wonderful family, friends, and coworkers. My thoughts and prayers are with those that were blessed to know Ensign McMurtry.●

25TH ANNIVERSARY OF VIETNAM
VETERANS OF AMERICA'S FIRST
CHAPTER, RUTLAND, VERMONT

• Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President. I rise before you in recognition of the 25th anniversary of the very first chapter of Vietnam Veterans of America, which was founded and nurtured in my home town of Rutland, VT.

A quarter-century ago, Vietnam veterans, their families and loved ones were suffering the slings and arrows of anti-Vietnam war sentiment that gripped our Nation. Scant recognition was given to the personal and professional sacrifices of these valiant American young men and women during their service to our country. Officially there was a great deal of denial of the unwarranted price, both physical and emotional, that had been paid by these veterans. It would be decades before post-traumatic stress disorder, PTSD, would be a recognized condition. Many years would also pass before the Federal Government would admit that use of Agent Orange had left a terrible legacy of extreme suffering for our veterans and their families.

The founders of the Vietnam Veterans of America recognized an honor-bound duty as an organization to speak directly to these grave needs. The outpouring of enthusiasm from the veterans themselves demonstrated to all Americans the depth of these convictions.

In 1979, during a trip to Vermont, Vietnam Veterans of America founder Bobby Mueller met the late Don Bodelle. Don supported the notion of an organization of and for Vietnam-era veterans, but felt that it would only be truly successful if they mobilized locally and established chapters. The power of Don's logic and commitment persuaded Bobby Mueller to adopt this model. On April 13, 1980, Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter One was established in Rutland, VT. Taking up the challenge, Don was joined by Jake Jacobsen, Albert and Mary Trombley, Mike Dodge, Dennis Ross, Clark Howland and Mark Truhan, to name a few.

Over the years, Vietnam Veterans of America has won huge victories in the fight for fair treatment for Vietnam veterans, and has helped ensure that no other class of veteran will ever get that same treatment. The Vietnam Veterans of America's legacy includes recognition of the effects of Agent Orange and other chemical agents of war, the growing body of science around PTSD diagnosis, and aggressive programs to aid the veteran in the struggle to reintegrate after hostilities. All subsequent veterans benefit from the expertise that has been developed by the staff of the Vietnam Veterans of America and their continuing effectiveness in pushing for better funding for VA health care, higher quality service delivery and respect in the community.

In closing, I would like to add my thanks for the tremendous work done by the Vietnam Veterans of America national and local organizations. As a Vietnam-era veteran myself, we all owe a tremendous debt of gratitude to Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter One's visionary founders and the steadfast members who have followed their lead. Thank you for your outstanding service to your fellow veterans and our country. Happy 25th birthday, Chapter One. May you have many more.●

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message from the President of the United States was communicated to the Senate by Ms. Evans, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGE REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate a message from the President of the United States submitting a nomination which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services.

(The nomination received today is printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 11:44 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 436. An act to amend the Investment Company Act of 1940 to provide incentives for small business investment, and for other purposes.

H.R. 797. An act to amend the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 and other Acts to improve housing programs for Indians.

H.R. 1025. An act to amend the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act to exempt mortgage servicers from certain requirements of the Act with respect to federally related mortgage loans secured by a first lien, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1077. An act to improve the access of investors to regulatory records with respect to securities brokers, dealers, and investment advisers.

H.R. 1460. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 6200 Rolling Road in Springfield, Virginia, as the "Captain Mark Stubenhofer Post Office Building".

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 436. An act to amend the Investment Company Act of 1940 to provide incentives for small business investment, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

H.R. 797. An act to amend the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 and other Acts to improve housing programs for Indians; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

H.R. 1025. An act to amend the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act to exempt mortgage servicers from certain requirements of the Act with respect to federally related mortgage loans secured by a first lien, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

H.R. 1077. An act to improve the access of investors to regulatory records with respect to securities brokers, dealers, and investment advisers; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

H.R. 1460. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 6200 Rolling Road in Springfield, Virginia, as the "Captain Mark Stubenhofer Post Office Building"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

MEASURE HELD AT THE DESK

The following concurrent resolution was ordered held at the desk by unanimous consent:

S. Con. Res. 25. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress regarding the application of Airbus for launch aid.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER
COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-1526. A communication from the Principal Deputy for Personnel and Readiness,